

We can hear this bombardment distinctly, but of course not so plainly as at the Ypres sector.

(Enclosure in diary)

Col. Ferguson:

Herewith notes regarding the 3 Div.—German—known to be in front of Amiens on Aug. 6th.

SKINNER.

13th Div.

Lieut. General Von Barries.

Division recruited from Westphalia. Rated as good. During 1915, the Westphalians distinguished themselves by excellent work on defenses and fought tenaciously on all occasions. At Verdun and on the Somme, too, the division acquitted itself well.

In 1916-17 desertions were not infrequent but these came mostly from Poles and Alsations who are found in fairly large numbers in the division.

Division received a "smashing blow" on the Ailette in October, 1917, and large drafts required to bring it up to strength again.

The present battle on the Somme is the first real test the division has received since the battle on the Ailette.

27th Div.

Major General Von Maur.

Division recruited from the kingdom of Wurttemberg. Rated as one of the best divisions in the German army notwithstanding the fact that the severe handling which it received before Ypres in June, 1916, and on the Somme in August, caused, temporarily at any rate, a deterioration in the *morale* of some of the regiments. It is regarded as a thoroughly good division.

43rd Div.

No data. It is a new division on the Western Front. It is known as a reserve Division commanded by Lt.-Gen. Von Runkle. Probably came from the Russian Front.

*August 7, Wednesday.* German planes were out in some numbers last night but they did not disturb us. Today finished office work about 9 a.m. and then went out with Colonel Ferguson, Captain Burke, and Lieutenant R. M. Williams to Dirty Bucket to watch the manœuvres of the 117th Infantry. They were to make an assault from a trench and drive back the Germans and take up a new line of defense. We were interested to see them carry out this attack and also try and work out just what part the Engineers would play and their position in the advance. The Colonel and I were of the opinion that more of our men should go over with the first wave, but that 2 or 4 platoons should follow the second wave according to the amount of work to be done. When the second wave reached the new line of resistance the Engineers would at once begin to lay it off and have